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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**72-HOUR REPORT****18 JUNE 2018**

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**(U) CALIFORNIA****(U) San Diego - Deaths Surge from Fentanyl-Laced Drugs in San Diego**

(U) Reported deaths from fentanyl in California nearly tripled between 2016 and 2017, according to the California Department of Public Health, and San Diego County's fentanyl overdose mortality rate in 2017 was two times higher than the California rate. Nearly 275 deaths in San Diego County were attributed to opioid overdoses, with more than half involving fentanyl. Experts suspect dealers are tainting drugs with fentanyl because it produces a better high, or because it is more cost-effective. According to authorities, more than 75% of fentanyl seizures across the southwest border is coming through ports-of-entry in the Southern District of California from Mexico.

SOURCE: 17 June 2018, [KUSI News](#)

**(U) Southern California - ICE arrests 162 Illegal Immigrants in Far-Reaching Operation**

(U) US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) concluded last week a major arrest operation across the Southern California region. In total, 22 people were arrested in Santa Barbara County—one of which occurred in Santa Barbara, six in Goleta, and 15 in Santa Maria. A total of eight arrests were made in Ventura County, while 80 illegal immigrants were arrested in Los Angeles County. Additional arrests were made in Orange, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties. Five of the individuals arrested will be prosecuted for re-entry after deportation, and those not being criminally prosecuted will be processed for removal.

SOURCE: 15 June 2018, [KEYT News](#)

**(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER****(U) Salton City - US Border Patrol Finds Methamphetamine in a Vehicle's Fuel Tank**

(U) El Centro Sector Border Patrol agents arrested a man on 13 June suspected of smuggling 56 pounds of methamphetamine—wrapped in 35 bundles and with an estimated street value of \$185,000—inside the fuel tank of a black Chevrolet pick-up truck apprehended at the primary inspection area of the Highway 86 checkpoint in California. The man, later identified as a US citizen, was transported to the station for further processing. In fiscal year 2018, the El Centro Sector of US Border Patrol has seized more than 651 pounds of methamphetamine.

SOURCE: 16 June 2018, [Imperial Valley News](#)

**(U) NATIONAL****(U) Maine - Maine-Based Coast Guard Crew Seizes 12,000 Pounds of Cocaine**

(U) Kittery - A Coast Guard ship and crew from Kittery returned to Maine after seizing more than 12,000 pounds of cocaine worth \$209 million and detaining 24 suspected smugglers. Coast Guard officials say the 100-man crew of the USCG Cutter Campbell disrupted six narcotic smuggling rings off the coast of Central and South America. The effort was part of the Joint Interagency Task Force-South, which is an international and interagency effort to dismantle criminal networks.

SOURCE: 15 June 2018, [News Center Maine](#)

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**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY****(U) New Jersey - 22 Injured, Suspect Killed in Arts Festival Shooting**

(U) Trenton - Officials said a dispute between neighborhood gangs, and nothing terrorism-related, is believed to be behind what led to a shooting at a 24-hour arts festival over the weekend, resulting in 22 injuries, including a child. Officers stated that the venue was in the process of being shut down when the shooting began, leading police to shoot and kill one of the suspects and taking the other into custody.

SOURCE: 18 June 2018, [WPVI News](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Afghanistan - Suicide Bomber Kills 19, Taliban Rejects Cease-Fire Extension**

(U) Jalalabad - A suicide bomber struck in Afghanistan's eastern city of Jalalabad yesterday, killing at least 19 people in the second attack in as many days targeting Taliban fighters, security forces and civilians celebrating a holiday cease-fire. The Taliban later rejected an extension of the cease-fire. No one has claimed the attacks, but they appeared to be the work of ISIS, which is not included in the cease-fire and has clashed with the Taliban in the past. The local ISIS affiliate has a strong presence in the province.

SOURCE: 17 June 2018, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) United Kingdom - One in Ten British Foreign Fighters Have Been Prosecuted on Return to UK**

(U) London - An estimated 400 Britons have returned to the UK from the Middle East since 2012 after leaving to fight for terrorist groups such as ISIS, according to UK Home Office Minister Ben Wallace, of which around 40 have been successfully prosecuted for "direct action they carried out in Syria." Some members of Parliament urged for tougher terror laws in lieu of the low prosecution rate.

SOURCE: 16 June 2018, [The Epoch Times](#)

**(U) United Kingdom - ISIS Terrorist Behind Laptop Bomb Plot Identified as a British Car Mechanic**

(U) London - Hamayun Tariq, 41—who remains at large in Iraq and Syria—has been identified by a former British intelligence agent as one of the masterminds behind a terror plot that led the US to ban laptops on flights. Tariq allegedly developed powerful bombs that could be disguised as laptop batteries and taken onto airliners. The ban was lifted following the introduction of enhanced security checks at airports. Tariq also planned to attack spectators in sports stadiums using bomber drones, according to the former British intelligence agent.

SOURCE: 17 June 2018, [Newsweek](#)

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